

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the paragraph at page 26, lines 13-25 as follows:

As described above, since the SNMP agent 14 has a structure of collecting in advance only the management objects of the ~~type A~~ type B requiring a short collection time from the managed device 13 by the MIB processing section 16 and holding the management objects in the management table 20, the total collection time is shortened as compared with the case where the management objects of the type A are collected in advance in addition to the management objects of the type B. Thus, collection of the management objects to be stored in advance in the management table 20 can be easily completed within the time period during which the managed device 13 is not busy.

Please amend the paragraph at page 26, line 26 to page 27,  
line 7 as follows:

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In addition, in a case where collection of the management object of the classified ~~type A~~ type B requiring a short collection time is requested and this management object has been stored in the management table 20, this management object is retrieved from the management table 20 and quickly transmitted as a response. Since the SNMP manager 12 does not need to repeat the collection request for the management object, the network traffic can be prevented from increasing.

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And please amend the paragraph at page 30, lines 1-12 as follows:

As shown in FIGS. 16A and 16B, the management object process is performed by a control of the control processing section 17. When this management object process is started, the command analyzing section 18 analyzes the SNMP command in step S40 S61. That is, a command type is read out from the SNMP command. Based on this command type it is checked in step S41 whether the SNMP command is the GET or GETNEXT command. When it is detected that the SNMP command is not the GET or GETNEXT command, this SNMP command is supplied to the SNMP command executing section 15 in step S42. After this the management object process is finished.